reason of his position, to advise this Committee on many useful matters.

Mr. C. Achyuta Menon.—What previous training had we for being Members of this Council?

President.—I do not want to take objection to the question. We are prepared to give all possible answers. But there are questions which are unanswerable from their very nature, and so they cause considerable difficulty and inconvenience to find out the causes just for the sake of giving answers. They cannot be found in papers and records. If you ask for information, we have simply to look into the files. Here you ask for the reason. This is a matter which we have not investigated. We have certain persons. In the opinion of the Government, they were considered worthy of being appointed as members. If we anticipated such questions, we would have noted down that the Chief Engineer is selected for this reason or for that.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—May I know whether the Diwan Peishkar submitted a proposal about the Economic Development Committee?

President.—He might have submitted.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—He has made investigations, and made a proposal. He took the initiative, and still his name is not included.

President.—If at all, he should be appointed, I think, the proper place would be as President. He has already membership in several Committees. He is already in the Special Finance Committee, he is already in the Excise Committee, and why should we burden him with more work in Committees?

Mr. T. A Ramachandra Ayyar.—This is a very important committee.

President.—I point out that every committee is important, and we cannot give any opinion on the comparative work of each committee.

A certain article in the Sahodaran regarding Hostels.

83. **Mr. K. T. Mathew.**—Will the Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government has read the following lines published in the editorial article of the *Sahodaran* of the 22nd May 1926:—"എന്തിന് ഓരോ ജാതിക്കാക്ക് പ്രത്യേകം പ്രത്യേകം ഹോസ്റ്റൽ? എല്ലാവർക്കുംകൂടി ഒന്നുപോരെ? ബ്രാഹ്മണൻ വെച്ചു എല്ലാവർക്കും വിളമ്പിയാൽ മതിയല്ലൊ എന്നു മഹാരാജാവു തിരുമനസ്സുകൊണ്ടു മിസ്റ്റർ കറപ്പനോട് കല്പിച്ചതായി കേട്ടിട്ടുണ്ട്".

(b) whether the above statement is a correct version of facts; and if it is,

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(c) what obstacle there is in the way of the Government of His Highness the Maharaja for not throwing open all Government hostels (residential quarters) to all castes and creeds, in spite of the fact that a resolution to that effect has been passed in the Legislative Council with an overwhelming majority?

Mr. C. Matthai.—(a) The attention of the Government has not been drawn to the article.

(b) The Government do not consider it necessary to verify such statements appearing in newspapers.

(c) In pursuance of the resolution, the Government have already laid down a policy in Diwan's Proceedings, dated 14th May 1926, C. No. 1209/1101, which has been published in the Gazette.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—May I know whether the Government got copies?

President.—This *Sahodaran* was a publication that was in circulation years ago. During some period, it did not put in its appearance. Recently, we have been getting some papers.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Whenever it is published, two copies must go to the Government.

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—Yes.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—At present, have Government got copies of the paper *Sahodaran*?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—I cannot say without looking into the papers. The attention of the Government has not been drawn to the article. That is correct.

President.—When a paper is sent to us, we are expected to read all the articles, so that there is no necessity to draw attention. But I find that, in these papers, I have not time to read all these articles; but then there is a clerk in our Office to go through all these. He used to send these papers bodily to me. I said I had no time to read, and asked him to look to all these articles, and put in abstracts which require my attention, so that I may do something in regard to those articles.

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—That is the procedure, and that is being done even now.

President.—Was there any article in the *Sahodaran* to which my attention had to be drawn?

Mr. A. B. Salem.—May I point out, Sir, that it is the usual practice in British India, whenever an article appears, just to make a blue mark and send it to the department concerned.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—When found necessary.

President.—The procedure that I have adopted is to have all the papers sent to me with these blue marks and with abstracts.

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Mr. A. B. Salem.—It would be impossible for the Diwan of Cochin to go through all the papers.

President.—I ask them to put up short abstracts of the contents of the article. And, if the original article is worth perusing, I will go through it.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—What I suggest is that the attention of the officer of the department —the Head of the Department —must be drawn.

President.—It is left to the Diwan—to the discretion of the Diwan—whether he should call the attention of the Head of the Department to specific articles. If the attention of the Head of the Department is to be called to the article, I at once send the article to him for remarks. Then he comes forward. I do not give that work to the Office. I myself go through the abstracts, and whenever necessary, I just note down the points.

For instance, recently, there was an article about the Ferry service. I think it was about the use of very small boats by ferry contractors, the consequent danger and allied matters.

Mr. S. S. Koder.—It is not our service.

President.—It is not this ferry. Between Cheranallur and ?

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—Mulampilli.

President.—Then there was a general comment that other ferries are also having useless boats, and the safety of passengers is interfered with. I at once noted down this point, and sent it to the Diwan Peishkar for remarks. That is the procedure I adopt.

Mr. A B. Salem.—What I submitted was that some Government officer's attention must be drawn to the public opinion.

President.—We are doing it. We are only using discretion, i. e., on matters to which their attention should be called and not to all the articles.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Public opinion must be followed.

President.—And what he stated was in May 1926.

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—I do not remember to have seen this article.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Especially, when I have given the date of the paper, should not the Government see whether the article is published or not? I hope the attention of the Government will be drawn to it now.

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President.—I think you have given the particulars, and it is our duty to look for it. Just look into this article, and place a copy on the Diwan's table.

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—Yes, Sir.

The Kunnamkulam Sirkar High School Hostel.

84. **Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.**—Will the Government be pleased to state—

(a) the total number of students admitted in the Sirkar High School Hostel, Kunnamkulam, during each of the last ten years and the total number of each caste or class to which they belonged;

(b) is it not feasible to convert the present Hostel building into a Cosmopolitan Residential quarter with separate dining halls for each community;

(c) whether any contribution is made by the Government to recognised hostels where students of the school mess; if so, to what class or caste students, do that rule apply;

(d) has the Diwan received any representation from the Tiyyas of Kunnamkulam that a hostel should be started for Tiyya students of the school; does the Government propose to take any action in the matter;

(e) cannot at least the concessions shown to other communities be extended to the Tiyyas also?

Mr. C. Matthai.—(a) A statement giving the information is appended. (*Vide Appendix I*)

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes, three hostels have been recognised by the Government, viz., the Muslim Hostel for boys and girls (2) the Y. M. C. A. Hostel for boys and (3) the Y. W. C. A. Hostel for girls.

(d) Yes. The Member is referred to the Diwan's Proceedings, C. No. 1209/1101, dated 14th May 1926, published on page 599 of the Government Gazette, dated 15th May 1926.

(e) Vide answer to (d).

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—What is the nature of the contribution?

Mr. C. Matthai.—We give grants to hostels.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Are these contributions even now given?

Mr. C. Matthai.—To certain hostels they are given.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—In the face of the Diwan's Proceedings referred to in answer to part (b), is it necessary to continue these grants?

Mr. C. Matthai.—I do not find any contradiction at all.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—I suppose these grants are intended for Christian and Muhammadan students? They are

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